

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 3170

FOR COL HOBBS FROM THE AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 284796

1. WHILE I WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISIT UAE, I THINK TIMING IS NOT THE BEST IF YOU INTEND TO MEET WITH UAE OFFICIALS. FIRST OF ALL, EVERYONE HERE WILL BE UNAVAILABLE DURING DEC. 1 TO DEC. 5 PERIOD OF EID. THEREAFTER, MILITARY OFFICIALS WILL BE TIED UP WITH PREPARATIONS FOR NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION WHICH ARE TO LAST TWO DAYS, DECEMBER 12 AND 13. LATTER PROMISES TO BE QUITE A SHOW AS UAE CELEBRATES ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY. THE PAKISTANI PILOTS ARE ALREADY PRACTICING AERIAL ACROBATICS ALMOST EVERY DAY IN FRONT OF EMBASSY. SECONDLY, WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE ANY WORD ON WHAT WASHINGTON'S DECISION WILL BE ON UAE REQUEST FOR TOW'S. THIS SUBJECT WOULD INEVITABLY BE RAISED IF YOU WERE TO MEET WITH ANY UAE MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES. I HAVE AVOIDED ANY DISCUSSION THIS SUBJECT NOR HAVE I CALLED ON GENERAL KHALDI UNTIL I GET SOME WORD. I WOULD PERSONALLY WANT TO CONVEY TO GENERAL KHALDI, SHAIKH KHALIFA AND SHAIKH SULTAN WHATEVER DECISION WASHINGTON MAKES ON TOW'S.

2. THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU WANT TO COME AND BRIEF ME AND OTHER EMBOFFS ON CURRENT POLITICAL/MILITARY ISSUES, SUGGEST YOU SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT AT SOME LATER DATE.
DICKMAN

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